

What is claimed is:

1. A flat fluorescent lamp, comprising:
  - a front substrate;
  - 5 a back substrate having a continuous serpentine type discharge channel defined by a plurality of partitions, which are extended from both side ends of the back substrate and alternately disposed;
  - a pair of electrodes provided on an outer surface of any 10 one of the front substrate and the back substrate; and
  - an inverter to apply power to the electrodes,
  - wherein each of the electrodes includes a discharge electrode and a plurality of subsidiary electrodes,
  - the discharge electrodes are mounted in strip shapes 15 along both side ends of the outer surface of the any one of the front substrate and the back substrate, and
  - the plurality of subsidiary electrodes are mounted on the outer surface of the any one of the front substrate and the back substrate to correspond to positions of the 20 partitions, and are disposed to be perpendicular to the discharge electrodes, the plurality of subsidiary electrodes being alternately connected to inner edges of both the discharge electrodes so that neighboring subsidiary electrodes have different polarities.

2. A flat fluorescent lamp, comprising:

a front substrate;

a back substrate having a continuous serpentine type discharge channel defined by a plurality of partitions, which

5 are extended from both side ends of the back substrate and alternately disposed;

a pair of electrodes provided on an outer surface of any one of the front substrate and the back substrate; and

10 an inverter to apply power to the electrodes,

wherein each of the electrodes includes a discharge electrode and a subsidiary electrode,

the discharge electrodes are mounted in strip shapes along both side ends of the outer surface of the any one of the front substrate and the back substrate,

15 the subsidiary electrodes are mounted on the outer surface of the any one of the front substrate and the back substrate, and each of the subsidiary electrodes has a first subsidiary electrode disposed to be adjacent to any one of the discharge electrodes while being in parallel therewith, and a

20 plurality of second subsidiary electrodes which are mounted to correspond to positions of the partitions, and are positioned to be perpendicular to the first subsidiary electrode, the second subsidiary electrodes of both the subsidiary electrodes being alternately connected to inner edges of both the first

25 subsidiary electrodes so that neighboring electrodes have

different polarities, and

the discharge electrode and the first subsidiary electrode are separately connected to the inverter.

5       3. The flat fluorescent lamp as defined in claim 2, wherein any one of the discharge electrodes and the first subsidiary electrode adjacent to the any one of the discharge electrodes have the same polarities.

10      4. The flat fluorescent lamp as defined in claim 1, wherein each of the subsidiary electrodes, which are positioned to be perpendicular to the discharge electrodes, has a hollow part therein.

15      5. The flat fluorescent lamp as defined in claim 2, wherein each of the subsidiary electrodes, which are positioned to be perpendicular to the discharge electrodes, has a hollow part therein.

20      6. A backlight unit, comprising:

      a diffusion member;

      a flat fluorescent lamp, which includes a front substrate, a back substrate having a continuous serpentine type discharge channel defined by a plurality of partitions,

25    which are extended from both side ends of the back substrate

and alternately disposed, a pair of electrodes provided on an outer surface of any one of the front substrate and the back substrate, and an inverter to apply power to the electrodes; and

5 a frame having the diffusion member and the flat fluorescent lamp therein,

wherein each of the electrodes includes a discharge electrode and a plurality of subsidiary electrodes,

the discharge electrodes are mounted in strip shapes  
10 along both side ends of the outer surface of the any one of the front substrate and the back substrate,

the plurality of subsidiary electrodes are mounted on the outer surface of the any one of the front substrate and the back substrate to correspond to positions of the  
15 partitions, and are disposed to be perpendicular to the discharge electrodes, the plurality of subsidiary electrodes being alternately connected to inner edges of both the discharge electrodes so that neighboring subsidiary electrodes have different polarities.

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7. A backlight unit, comprising:

a diffusion member;

a flat fluorescent lamp, which includes a front substrate, a back substrate having a continuous serpentine  
25 type discharge channel defined by a plurality of partitions,

which are extended from both side ends of the back substrate  
and alternately disposed, a pair of electrodes provided on an  
outer surface of any one of the front substrate and the back  
substrate, and an inverter to apply power to the electrodes;  
5 and

a frame having the diffusion member and the flat  
fluorescent lamp therein,

wherein each of the electrodes includes a discharge  
electrode and a subsidiary electrode,

10 the discharge electrodes are mounted in strip shapes  
along both side ends of the outer surface of the any one of  
the front substrate and the back substrate,

the subsidiary electrodes are mounted on the outer  
surface of the any one of the front substrate and the back  
15 substrate, and each of the subsidiary electrodes has a first  
subsidiary electrode disposed to be adjacent to any one of the  
discharge electrodes while being in parallel therewith, and a  
plurality of second subsidiary electrodes which are mounted to  
correspond to positions of the partitions, and are positioned  
20 to be perpendicular to the first subsidiary electrode, and the  
second subsidiary electrodes of both the subsidiary electrodes  
being alternately connected to inner edges of both the first  
subsidiary electrodes so that neighboring electrodes have  
different polarities, and

25 the discharge electrode and the first subsidiary

electrode are separately connected to the inverter.

8. The backlight unit as defined in claim 7, wherein any one of the discharge electrodes and the first subsidiary 5 electrode adjacent to the any one of the discharge electrodes have the same polarities.

9. The backlight unit as defined in claim 6, wherein each of the subsidiary electrodes, which are positioned to be 10 perpendicular to the discharge electrodes, has a hollow part therein.

10. The backlight unit as defined in claim 7, wherein each of the subsidiary electrodes, which are positioned to be 15 perpendicular to the discharge electrodes, has a hollow part therein.